

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 210166  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07  
/100 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:GSCOTT:AB  
APPROVED BY AF:WHARROP  
AF/P:RHOLLIDAY

-----043490 020724Z /16

P 012308Z SEP 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY SANA  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SO, UR, SOPN, PORG

SUBJECT:SOVIET ACTIONS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE DRAWN UPON BY DEPARTMENT SPOKES-  
MAN SEPTEMBER 1 AND REPRESENTS CURRENT DEPARTMENT POSITION.  
ACTION ADDRESSEES SHOULD AT THEIR DISCRETION USE THIS  
GUIDANCE WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHEN APPROPRIATE  
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OCCASION TO DISCUSS HORN ARISES.

2. QUESTION: HAS THE DEPARTMENT ANY INFORMATION ON  
PRESIDENT SIAD'S TRIP TO MOSCOW?

ANSWER: WE ARE AWARE OF THE TRIP, BUT HAVE NOT YET SEEN  
ANY REPORTS OF THE RESULTS OF THE CONVERSATIONS, WHICH WE

PRESUME CONCERN THE FIGHTING IN THE OGADEN. THE CONFLICT THERE IS OF GROWING CONCERN TO AFRICAN STATES AND TO THE US. WE HAVE FOLLOWED THE MEDIATION EFFORTS BY THE OAU WITH HOPE AND HAVE EXPRESSED OUR SUPPORT FOR A MEDIATED AND PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT WHICH IS BRINGING MUCH SUFFERING TO THE ETHIOPIAN AND SOMALI PEOPLES. AS YOU WILL RECALL, WE HAD EARLIER AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO PROVIDE DEFENSIVE ARMS TO SOMALIA FOR THE PROTECTION OF ITS INTERNATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED TERRITORY. WHEN THE FIGHTING BROKE OUT IN THE OGADEN, HOWEVER, WE DECIDED TO REFRAIN FOR THE TIME BEING FROM IMPLEMENTING OUR DECISION. ONCE

ACTIVE WARFARE IS IN PROGRESS, PROVISION OF ARMS BY OUTSIDE POWERS CAN NO LONGER HAVE A BALANCING, STABILIZING EFFECT, BUT MERELY FUELS THE FIGHTING. BY CONTINUING TO SUPPLY ARMS AND MILITARY ADVICE -- DIRECTLY AS WELL AS THROUGH SURROGATES -- TO BOTH ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA, ANOTHER MAJOR POWER IS DOING JUST THAT, FUELING A CONFLICT BETWEEN AFRICANS, AND, AT THE SAME TIME, ADDING EXTRA-REGIONAL COMPLICATIONS TO AN ALREADY DIFFICULT SITUATION. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, PRESS RELEASES, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, COMBAT OPERATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 01-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE210166  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** GSCOTT:AB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770318-0167  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t197709106/aaaadlgb.tel  
**Line Count:** 83  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 40798739-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1079677  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOVIET ACTIONS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA  
**TAGS:** SOPN, PORG, OVIP, US, SO, UR, ET  
**To:** AF POSTS  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/40798739-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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